

Appln. of: FITZGERALD, Ian
Serial No.: 10/797,059
Filed: 03/11/2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-10, 13-17 and 20-24 are pending in this application, with claims 20-24 being new.

Claims 2, 3, 11, 12, 18 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Revised Figures are submitted herewith as requested by the Examiner.

The specification has been corrected as suggested by the Examiner.

The abstract has been amended to remove reference to Fig. 3 and to place the abstract in a narrative form.

Claims 18-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 112.

Claims 18 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1-5, 8, 11-13, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Escure.

Claims 6, 7, 9, 10, and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Escure in view of Klompas.

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the limitations of claims 2 and 3, as well as further defining the structure of the carrier ring to which the secondary air tubes are attached.

Amended claim 1 requires:

wherein the end sections of the secondary air tubes are provided with mounting shoes which can be inserted into respective axially-opening slots in the carrier ring in a form-fitting manner and secured in the slots by locking elements.

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Neither Escure nor Klompas disclose or suggest such an arrangement.

The ring 10 of Escure includes a plurality of round holes 15 into which respective air tubes 11 are installed. However, the holes 15 are round and enclosed on their peripheries. See Escure, Figs. 2, 3 and 5. The holes 15 are not axially-opening slots as required by amended claim 1. Klompas is even less relevant to amended claim 1. The use of the axially-opening slots in the claimed invention facilitates assembly and disassembly of the compressor while providing for a high degree of stability between the carrier ring and the secondary air tubes.

In view of the above, amended claim 1 is believed allowable over the cited art and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn. Claims 4-10, 13-17 and 20-23 all depend from claim 1 and are believed allowable for the same reasons as given above for claim 1, as well as for the further limitations contained therein. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of these remaining dependent claims be withdrawn as well.

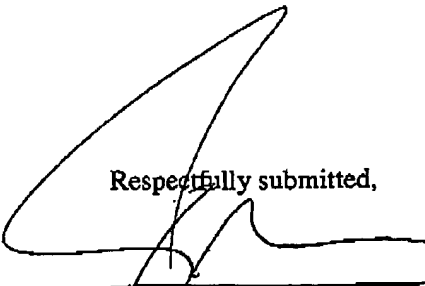
Claim 17 is indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

New claim 24 has been added which includes the limitations of original claims 1, 16 and 17 and certain limitations of original claim 3. In view of the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 17, claim 24 is believed to be in allowable condition.

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and such a Notice is respectfully requested. If anything else is needed to place the application in condition for allowance, it is kindly requested that the undersigned be contacted.

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Respectfully submitted,



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